GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2491
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
GARUDA CELLULAR SERVICE
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of subscribers of Garuda Cellular Service and the number thereof on the waiting list in Delhi as on June 30, 2002;

(b) the time by which handsets are likely to be provided to the persons on the waiting list;

(c) whether the rent of Garuda Cellular Service has been slashed down in comparison to the earlier rent charged;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to introduce the ID caller facility also in Garuda Cellular Service; and

(f) if so, since when and the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) The number of subscribers of Garuda Mobile Service in MTNL, Delhi as on 30.6.2002 is 21890. Waitng list is nil as the booking is closed because the exchange capacity has been utilized fully.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rental has decreased from existing Rs.450/- per month to Rs.250/- per month, which includes Rs.50/- per month rental for handsets. Optionally handset can be given by service providers by taking a refundable security deposit of Rs.6000/- and rental for services in such case would be Rs.200/- per month. The above charges are to be implemented from the date of gazette notification of TRAI orders in this regard.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) A Letter of Intent (Advance purchase order) has been issued for expansion of existing network in which ID-Caller facility is a feature and is likely to be provided by the end of current year.